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[17306/101]

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
GROUP ART UNIT 3652

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : George Nelson BLISS et al.
Serial No. : 09/849,006
Filed : May 4, 2001
For : APPARATUS FOR RELEASING ITEMS WITHIN A
CONFINED SPACE
Examiner : Paul T. Chin
Art Unit : 3652
Confirmation No. : 1810

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the
United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class
mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for
Patents, Washington, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: June 7, 2004

Reg. No. 42,194

Signature: _____

Clifford A. Ulrich

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL

S I R:

Transmitted herewith for filing in the above-identified application is a Response to
Office Action Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116.

No fee is believed to be required. However, if any fee is required, including fees
for any extension of time, please use Deposit Account No. **11-0600**. A duplicate copy of
this transmittal letter is enclosed for that purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

KENYON & KENYON

Dated: June 7, 2004

By: _____

Clifford A. Ulrich

Reg. No. 42,194

One Broadway

New York, New York 10004

(212) 425-7200

CUSTOMER NO. 26646



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REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

S I R:

This paper is in further response to the Final Office Action of October 3, 2003 and in response to the Advisory Action dated April 27, 2004 in connection with the above-captioned application. This paper is believed to place the present application in condition for immediate allowance because this paper cancels without prejudice all of the finally rejected claims, *i.e.*, claims 1 to 4, 7, 8, 12, 13, 16 to 20 and 24, amends claims 9 and 10 in the manner proposed in the Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 filed on March 12, 2004, and cancels without prejudice withdrawn claims 11 and 23. In view of the foregoing, entry of the present paper is respectfully requested. In this regard, please amend the above-referenced application without prejudice as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.